

**5045**  
**Student Fees**

The Tri County Board of Education adopts the following Student Fees Policy in accordance with the Nebraska Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act.

The school district shall provide free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska State Constitution and the Nebraska statutes. The district also provides activities, programs, and services that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the district is permitted to charge students fees for these activities or to require students to provide specialized equipment and attire for certain purposes. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or board regulations. Students are encouraged to contact their building administration, their teachers or their coaches, and sponsors for further specifics.

**A. Definitions.**

1. "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.
2. "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.
3. "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

**B. Listing of Fees Charged by this District.**

**1. Guidelines for Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities.**

Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.

**2. Safety Equipment and Attire.**

The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.

**3. Personal or Consumable Items.**

The district will prepare a list of personal and consumable items including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers, and notebooks, that the students are requested, but not required to bring to class. The district will provide students with any personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities, which they do not supply themselves. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment, materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.

**4. Materials Required for Course Projects.**

The district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all curricular projects. In courses where students produce a project that requires more than minimal cost for materials, the finished product will remain the property of the district unless the

students either furnish or pay for the reasonable cost of materials required for the course project.

The **MAXIMUM** dollar amount charged by the district for course materials shall be:

- Industrial Technology Classes - \$1,200
- Art Classes - \$20.00

## 5. **Maintenance Coverage for Chromebooks**

The school district provides each student in grades 7-12 with a Chromebook device both as an interactive teaching tool used during class time and for students' use in collaborative learning and out of class assignments and studying. Tri County Public Schools is offering maintenance which parents may purchase which will cover Chromebooks loaned to students against all accidental damage. With the purchase of school-sponsored maintenance, 100% of any accidental damage will be covered. The student and parent are responsible for 100% of the cost if you elect to not purchase the maintenance. Election of this maintenance is available only at the checkout of the device for a cost of \$25.00. Accessories, such as memory devices, power cord, and computer bags, are not covered. The proceeds from this coverage will be used to fund the district's self-insurance program for Chromebooks that are lost or damaged while out of the school building. Students who chose not to pay the maintenance coverage will not be allowed to remove their Chromebooks from the school building, but will be afforded adequate time in the building beyond regular school hours to enable students to complete out-of-class work on their Transformers.

## 6. **Extracurricular Activities.**

The district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.

The following list details the **MAXIMUM** dollar amount of all extracurricular activities fees and the specifications for any equipment or attire required for participation in extracurricular activities:

- Student activity card for grades K through 12 - \$0.00
- Student participation fee for grades 9 through 12 - \$20.00
- Student participation fee for grades 7 and 8 - \$0.00

*Required of all students who participate in athletics and/or other extracurricular activities*

- Future Business Leaders of America - \$10.00
- National Honor Society - \$10.00
- Football students must provide their own football shoes, undergarments, and mouth guards
- Golf students must provide their own golf shoes, undergarments, and clubs
- Track, Volleyball, Wrestling and Basketball students must provide their own shoes and undergarments
- Future Farmers of America student must purchase their own jackets and pay dues of \$25.00.

## 7. **Post-Secondary Education Costs.**

Some students enroll in postsecondary courses while still enrolled in the district's high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary

courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall offer the course without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who choose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution.

**8. Copies of Student Files or Records.**

The district will charge a fee for making copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of student record fees. Parents of students have the right to inspect and review the students' files or records without the payment of a fee, and the district shall not charge a fee to search for or retrieve any student's files or records.

The district will charge a fee of \$.25 per page for reproduction of student records.

**9. Participation in Summer School.**

The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in summer school. (Driver's Education)

The **MAXIMUM** dollar amount charged by the district for summer school shall be \$250.00.

**10. Charges for Food Consumed by Students.**

The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

The **MAXIMUM** dollar amount charged by the district for the breakfast and lunch programs is as follows:

- Breakfast Program – Grades K-6
  - Regular Price \$1.90
  - Reduced Price \$ .30
- Breakfast Program – Grades 7-12
  - Regular Price \$1.90
  - Reduced Price \$ .30
- Lunch Program – Grades K-6
  - Regular Price \$2.70
  - Reduced Price \$ .40
- Lunch Program – Grades 7-12
  - Regular Price \$2.80
  - Reduced Price \$ .40

**11. Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.**

Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided, at no charge, the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. For musical extracurricular activities, the school district will require students to provide the following equipment and/or attire:

- Band Students must provide their own instruments and marching band shoes, which must be white, rubber-soled sneakers
- Swing Choir Students must purchase outfits and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group.

**C. Waiver Policy.**

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Actual participation in the free or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for the waivers provided in this section. The district is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their building principal.

**D. Distribution of Policy.**

This policy will be published in the Student Handbook or its equivalent that will be provided to students at no cost.

**A. Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.**

The district will, when appropriate, request donations of money, materials, equipment or attire from parents, guardians and other members of the community to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. These requests are not requirements and staff members of the district are directed to clearly communicate that fact to students, parents and patrons.

**F. Student Fee Fund.**

The school board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund that will not be funded by tax revenue, and that will serve a depository for all monies collected from students for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) post-secondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school courses. Monies in the Student Fee Fund shall be expended only for the purposes for which they were collected from students.

Adopted: July 14, 2003  
 Revised: August 11, 2008  
 Reviewed: July 13, 2011  
 Revised: October 8, 2012  
 Revised: August 11, 2014  
 Revised: July 13, 2015  
 Revised: August 10, 2015  
 Reviewed: July 11, 2016

**CERTIFICATION**

On the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_, the Board of Education of Tri County Public Schools held a public hearing on a proposed student fee policy. The hearing followed a review of the amount of money collected from students pursuant to, and the use of waivers provided in, the student fee policy for the \_\_\_\_\_ school year. This student fee policy was then adopted by a majority vote of the school board at an open public meeting conducted in compliance with the Public Meetings Law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent of Schools or Other  
Authorized School Representative

# Student Fee Waiver Application

The school district will waive certain fees for students who qualify for free and reduced lunches under the income guidelines of the United States Department of Agriculture. If you would like the school district to waive specific student fees for your child, you must fill this form out in its entirety and submit it, along with any required documentation, to the office of the Superintendent of Schools.

**Part 1:** Name of the child on who's behalf you are requesting a fee waiver:

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**Part 2:** Specific fee(s) for which you are requesting a waiver:

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**Part 3: Eligibility. Select ONE of the following:**

- a.  Check here if your child is eligible for fee waivers because he or she is a foster child.  
Please attach official documentation from the agency sponsoring the child.
- b.  Check here if your child is eligible for fee waivers because you receive Food Stamps, FDPIR or TANF for the child.  
Please attach a copy of one of the following:
- A Food Stamp, FDPIR or TANF Certification Notice that shows dates of certification
  - A letter from Food Stamp or Welfare Office confirming your receipt of Food Stamps, FDPIR or TANF
  - An ATP (Authorization to Participate) card with an expiration date. Do not send your EBT card.
- c.  Check here if you are claiming your child is eligible because your household income is less than 180% of poverty level, please check here.

Please complete the following:

Name (list everyone in your household)	Last month=s income and how often it was received Example: \$100/monthly \$100/twice a month \$100/every other week				Check if no income
	Earnings from work before deductions	Welfare, child support, alimony	Pensions, retirement, Social Security	Other	
	____/____	____/____	____/____	____/____	
	____/____	____/____	____/____	____/____	G
	____/____	____/____	____/____	____/____	G
	____/____	____/____	____/____	____/____	G
	____/____	____/____	____/____	____/____	G
	\$____/____	\$____/____	\$____/____	\$____/____	G

Please attach documents verifying the amount of money your household received last month from each source. The documents you provide must show the **name** of the person who received the income, the **date** it was received, **how much** was received and **how often** it was received.

**Acceptable documentation includes:**

**Jobs:** current paycheck stub or pay envelope that shows how often pay is received; letter from employer stating gross wages and how often they are paid; or business or farming papers, such as a ledger or tax books.

**Social Security, Pensions, or Retirement:** A notice of eligibility from state employment security office, check stub, or letter from Workers' Compensation Court.

**Welfare Payments:** A benefit letter from a welfare agency.

**Child Support or Alimony:** A court decree, agreement, or copies of checks received.

**Other income (such as rental income):** Information that shows the amount of income received, how often it is received, and the date received.

**No income:** A brief note explaining how you provide food, clothing and housing for your household and when you expect an income.

**Part 4. Signature and verification**

An adult household member must sign this application.

**PLEASE READ THIS CERTIFICATION BEFORE SIGNING:**

I certify that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. By my signature on this document, I give school authorities permission to disclose my child's eligibility for fee waivers to school personnel as necessary to effect the fee waiver. I understand that any clothing, equipment, or other materials used by my child during his or her participation in the activity for which student fees have been waived are and will remain the property of the school district.

**Sign here:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_